# County Business Patterns

# Data User Guide

*This guide provides steps to access County Business Patterns (CBP) data in Comma Separated files (CSV), on data.census.gov. You may also contact the U.S. Census Bureau's CBP staff at 301-763-2580 or ewd.county.business.patterns@census.gov for assistance.*

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**Last updated: 4/28/2022**
Note: Each slide has a unique link [here] that refers to the subject matter explained.

1

# Frequently Asked Questions

- **What is the source of CBP data?**

  CBP data are extracted from the Business Register, the Census Bureau's file of all known single and multi-establishment companies. Data comes from a variety of sources, including the Economic Census, the Annual Survey of Manufactures, and Current Business Surveys, as well as from administrative records of the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), the Social Security Administration (SSA), and the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).

- **Are sales and receipts data provided in CBP?**

  No. Sales and receipts data are available from other Census Bureau programs. For more information, please see the Census Bureau's economic data.

- **Can I find data on a specific company or get a list of companies in an area?**

  The Census Bureau is forbidden by Federal Law, Title 13 of the U.S. Code, from providing data that can be linked to specific establishments, which includes any lists of companies in a designated area. Even revealing that an entity is in the data is prohibited under this law.

- **Can CBP be used as a time series?**

  We don't recommend using CBP data as a time series. While CBP publishes annually, the data is meant to be more of a snapshot in time. Further, CBP does not revise data for prior years. CBP relies on administrative data that is subject to non sampling error.

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*http://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/cbp/technical-documentation/methodology.html*

2

# Definitions

- **Legal Form of Organization (LFO)** – An LFO is the organizational structure a firm chooses to adopt. LFO is derived from administrative records data sources.

- **North America Industry Classification System (NAICS)** – The standard used by Federal statistical agencies in classifying business establishments. For more information, visit the NAICS website.

- **Noise Infusion** – A method of disclosure avoidance in which values for each firm are perturbed prior to the data being released. Read more on our How the Data Are Collected page.

- **NOISE Flags**–
  - G - Low Noise Infusion
  - H - Medium Noise Infusion
  - J - High Noise Infusion
  - D - Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual companies; data are included in higher level totals (used prior to reference year 2017)
  - S - Withheld because estimate did not meet publication standards
  - N - Not available or not comparable

- **Statewide** – Classification for employers in a state without a fixed location.

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*https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/cbp/about/glossary.html*

3

**County Business Patterns**

## County Business Patterns (CBP)

CBP is an annual series that provides subnational economic data by industry. This series includes the number of establishments, employment during the week of March 12, first quarter payroll, and annual payroll.

WITHIN OUR SURVEYS & PROGRAMS

About this Program

Data

Guidance for Data Users

Library

News & Updates

Technical Documentation

What is CBP?

Where can I find CBP data?

News & Updates

### Visualizations

County Business Patterns: Average Annual Payroll Per Employee by Industry

Number of U.S. Breweries by Employment Size Ranges: 2017-2019

County Business Patterns by Industry: 2019

VIEW ALL VISUALIZATIONS

### News

Press Release | April 28, 2022
**2020 County Business Patterns Now Available**

## Using the Homepage

Data is available:
- Through Data.census.gov
- Downloadable (in CSV) on the survey page
- API

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# County Business Patterns

## Using the Data Page

**WITHIN COUNTY BUSINESS PATTERNS (CBP)**

API

CBP by Congressional District

CBP Datasets

CBP Tables

# Data

County Business Patterns has been produced as a consistent, annual series since 1964 and ZIP Code Business Patterns since 1994.

## CBP Tables

CBP data tables are available on data.census.gov from 2012 to the current reference year and in print publication from 1993-2004.

## CBP Datasets

CBP data are available in downloadable CSV format, along with record layouts and reference guides, from 1986 to the current reference year.

## CBP by Congressional District

My Congressional District tool allows data users to view the most recent CBP data and American Community Survey data by congressional district.

## API

The Census Bureau's Application Programming Interface allows developers to create custom queries. Users can embed these statistics into web or mobile apps.

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*http://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/cbp.html*

**5**

# County Business Patterns

## Accessing Data and Customizing using Data.census.gov

**WITHIN DATA**

API

CBP by Congressional District

CBP Datasets

**CBP Tables**

## CBP Tables

This series includes the number of establishments, employment duri quarter payroll, and annual payroll.

CBP data tables are available in data.census.gov from 2012 to th print publication from 1993-2004. Due to American FactFinder tables are not available from 2005-2011; however, data from 19 be downloaded from the CBP Datasets page.

More information on how to access CBP data on data.census.g Guide.

| All | **2020** | 2019 | 2018 | 2017 | 2016 | 2015 |

## 2020

Table | 2022
**CBP Tables 2020**
View and download the 2020 CBP Tables ... data.census.gov.

Table | 2022
**2020 CBP First Look**
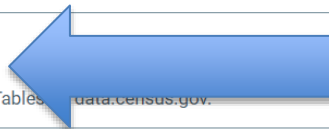
> To access data using data.census.gov, simply click on the hyperlink after selecting the desired year on the CBP Data Tables Page (https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/cbp/data/tables.html). You will then be directed to data.census.gov. Alternatively, you can go directly to data.census.gov and search for 'County Business Patterns'.

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*https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/cbp/data/tables.html*

6

# County Business Patterns

## Accessing Data and Customizing using Data.census.gov



Customize your table for Geography by clicking 'Geos' or NAICS by clicking 'Code'.

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**https://data.census.gov/cedsci/table?q=CBP2020.CB2000CBP&tid=CBP2020.CB2000CBP&hidePreview=true**

# County Business Patterns

## Accessing Data and Customizing using Data.census.gov
## Geographies



Select 'Geos' and then select the desired geography (this example starts at the county level).

Scroll to the state that the county you want is in, or select the top box for all counties

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8

# Accessing Data and Customizing using Data.census.gov
## Geographies

Within that state, select the county or counties you wish to view and hit the 'X' to return to the table

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# County Business Patterns

## Accessing Data and Customizing using Data.census.gov
## ZIP Codes



Click the 'Filter' Menu at the top Left of the screen

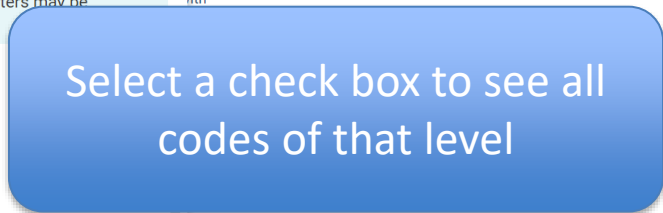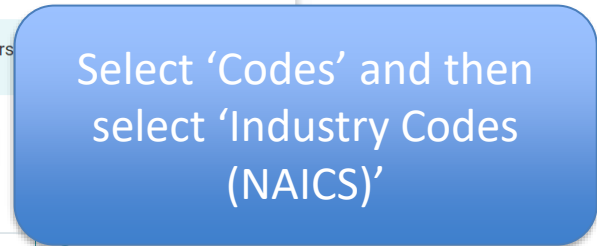Select 'Geography', then select '5-Digit Zip Code'. Do NOT select 'Zip Code Tabulation Area'.

Once you select your desired ZIP Codes, click the double arrows at the top-right of the screen to return to your table.

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**https://data.census.gov/cedsci/table?q=CBP2020.CB2000CBP&tid=CBP2020.CB2000CBP&hidePreview=true**

10

# County Business Patterns

## Accessing Data and Customizing using Data.census.gov
## ZIP Codes by State



Alternatively, you can select the 'Summary Levels' option in the 'Geography' menu and then select the '5-Digit ZIP Code' option.

If you select a state, a list of ZIP Codes within that state will appear.

Once you select your desired ZIP Codes, click the double arrows at the top-right of the screen to return to your table.

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11

## County Business Patterns

**Accessing Data and Customizing using Data.census.gov**
**ZIP Codes by Search**

Lastly, you can search for a specific ZIP Code manually. After clicking the 'Filters' button at the top left of the screen, click the 'Search' button.

Type in the 5-digit ZIP code, or the name of the city related to the ZIP Code. A list of options will appear. Select options with the format 'ZIP XXXXX (City, State)'. Do NOT select any options that start with 'ZCTA'.

# County Business Patterns

## Accessing Data and Customizing using Data.census.gov
### NAICS

**Select 'Codes' and then select 'Industry Codes (NAICS)'**

**Select a check box to see all codes of that level**

**Or navigate through a folder to see Sector specific codes**

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**https://data.census.gov/cedsci/table?q=CBP2020.CB2000CBP&tid=CBP2020.CB2000CBP**

**13**

# County Business Patterns

## Accessing Data and Customizing using Data.census.gov
## NAICS

Industry Codes (NAICS) / 11 - Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting /
**Select 11 - Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting**

Available filters are limited by your chosen result in combination w... unavailable.

- ☐ 11 - Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting
- ☐ 3-digit NAICS within 11
- ☐ 4-digit NAICS within 11
- ☐ 5-digit NAICS within 11
- ☐ 6-digit NAICS within 11
- 📁 113 - Forestry and logging
- 📁 114 - Fishing, hunting and trapping
- 📁 115 - Support activities for agriculture and forestry

Selecting the top check box will show that NAICS at that level (in this example it will show just data for Sector 11)

All X-digit codes within a sector can be selected, or further folders can be navigated through

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14

# County Business Patterns

## Accessing Data and Customizing using Data.census.gov

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https://data.census.gov/cedsci/table?q=CBP2020.CB2000CBP&tid=CBP2020.CB2000CBP

15

# Accessing Data and Customizing using Data.census.gov



The **Filter** feature allows users to filter a column for a specific value or meaning.

Users can opt to only show certain rows. In this example hitting 'APPLY' would limit the table to only rows that have 'All Establishments'

# Data.census.gov Features

To find Statewide, select 'Geos', and select 'Summary Levels', then '040 – State'

Select the box that has the 'State – Statewide' text for whichever state desired

# County Business Patterns

## Downloading Data using Data.census.gov



Select the desired download format and the table will download with all applied Geographies, Codes, and Filters

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**18**

# County Business Patterns

## Downloading Data in Comma-Separated Value (CSV)

United States® Census Bureau

Search

BROWSE BY TOPIC    EXPLORE DATA    LIBRARY    SURVEYS/ PROGRAMS    INFORMATION FOR...    FIND A CODE

// Census.gov / Our Surveys & Programs / County Business Patterns (CBP) / Data / CBP Datasets

**WITHIN DATA**

API

CBP by Congressional District

**CBP Datasets**

CBP Tables

## CBP Datasets

This series includes the number of establishments, employment during the week of March 12, first quarter payroll, and annual payroll. CBP datasets are downloadable files in comma-separated value (CSV) format and provide data from 1986 to the current reference year. In addition, record layouts and reference files are available within each year.

- U.S., States, and Counties datasets start in 1986
- ZIP Code datasets added in 1994
- MSA datasets added in 1993 and Micropolitan a[...]
- Island Areas datasets added in 2008
- CBP and NES Combined Report datasets added [...]
- Congressional District datasets added in 2013
- CSA datasets added in 2017

Visit the National Archives for CBP data prio[...]

Dataset | April 28, 2022
**County Business Patterns: 2020**

Dataset | April 22, 2021
**County Business Patterns: 2019**

Selecting 'CBP Datasets' on our webpage, and then 'County Business Patterns: YEAR' in the desired year will take the user to the page that has all of the datasets in .csv format

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http://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/cbp/data/datasets.html

19

# Downloading Data in Comma-Separated Value (CSV)

## County Business Patterns: 2020

APRIL 28, 2022

This series includes the number of establishments, employment during the week of March 12, first quarter payroll, and annual payroll. CBP datasets are downloadable files in comma-separated value (CSV) format. In addition, corresponding record layouts and reference files are available.

The Census Bureau did not collect district boundaries for the 117th Congress, in keeping with the practice of not collecting the session which aligns with the decennial census. As a result, County Business Patterns estimates were tabulated using 116th Congressional districts and state and local geographies.

The Census Bureau has reviewed this data product for unauthorized disclosure of confidential information and has approved the disclosure avoidance practices applied. (Approval ID: CBDRB-FY22-088)

### Datasets

- [X] Complete Congressional District File [<1.0 MB]
- Complete County File [11.2 MB]
- Complete County Equivalents for Puerto Rico & Island Areas File [<1.0 MB]
- Complete CSA File [2.3 MB]
- Complete MSA File [6.1 MB]
- Complete Puerto Rico & Island Areas File [<1.0 MB]
- Complete State File [10.0 MB]
- Complete U.S. File [<1.0 MB]

### Record Layouts

2020
- County Record Layout [<1.0 MB]

2018-2020
- CSA Record Layout [<1.0 MB]

Once selecting a year, you will have access to all available datasets for that year.

Record layouts are also available for reference.

Datasets are available as .ZIP files which may contain multiple files

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https://www.census.gov/data/datasets/2020/econ/cbp/2020-cbp.html

**20**

# County Business Patterns

## Loading Data in API

The API page will link the user to information about CBP API information. All of the API calls to CBP will start with the address 'api.census.gov/data/2020/cbp?'

Clicking on the 'Examples and Geographies' or 'Example Call' will take the user to a page with data pulled from the API

**2020** 2019 2018 2017 2016 2015 2014 2013 MORE ⌄

### 2020

County Business Patterns

- API Call: api.census.gov/data/2020/cbp
- Examples and Geographies: api.census.gov/data/2020/cbp.html
- Variables: api.census.gov/data/2020/cbp/variables.html
- Example Call: Total number of establishments for all legal forms of organization, in California for Accommodation and food services industry.

  api.census.gov/data/2020/cbp?
  get=ESTAB,LFO,NAICS2017_LABEL,NAME&for=state:06&NAICS2017=72

### Related Information

**API Forum**
Need help? Check out our Developer Forum to submit questions, share your apps, and provide feedback.

**FTP Server**
To download full datasets, visit our FTP Server.

**County Business Patterns (CBP)**
Provides subnational economic data by industry, including the number of establishments, employment, first quarter payroll, and annual payroll.

**NAICS Site**
The North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) is the standard used by Federal statistical agencies in classifying business establishments.

# County Business Patterns

## Loading Data in API Examples

*Census API: Examples for /data/2*

| Geography Hierarchy | Geography Level | Example URL |
|---|---|---|
| us | 010 | https://api.census.gov/data/2020/cbp?get=NAME,NAICS2017_LABEL,ESTAB,PAYANN,PAYQTR1,EMP&for=us:*&N |
| | | https://api.census.gov/data/2020/cbp?get=NAME,NAICS2017_LABEL,ESTAB,PAYANN,PAYQTR1,EMP&for=us:1&N |
| state | 040 | https://api.census.gov/data/2020/cbp?get=NAME,NAICS2017_LABEL,ESTAB,PAYANN,PAYQTR1,EMP&for=state:*& |
| | | https://api.census.gov/data/2020/cbp?get=NAME,NAICS2017_LABEL,ESTAB,PAYANN,PAYQTR1,EMP&for=state:01 |
| state › county | 050 | https://api.census.gov/data/2020/cbp?get=NAME,NAICS2017_LABEL,ESTAB,PAYANN,PAYQTR1,EMP&for=county: |
| | | https://api.census.gov/data/2020/cbp?get=NAME,NAICS2017_LABEL,ESTAB,PAYANN,PAYQTR1,EMP&for=county: |
| | | https://api.census.gov/data/2020/cbp?get=NAME,NAICS2017_LABEL,ESTAB,PAYANN,PAYQTR1,EMP&for=county: |
| metropolitan statistical area/micropolitan statistical area | 310 | https://api.census.gov/data/2020/cbp?get=NAME,NAICS2017_LABEL,ESTAB,PAYANN,PAYQTR1,EMP&for=metropolitan%20statistical%20area/micropol |
| | | https://api.census.gov/data/2020/cbp?get=NAME,NAICS2017_LABEL,ESTAB,PAYANN,PAYQTR1,EMP&for=metropolitan%20statistical%20area/micropol |
| combined statistical area | 330 | https://api.census.gov/data/2020/cbp?get=NAME,NAICS2017_LABEL,ESTAB,PAYANN,PAYQTR1,EMP&for=combin |
| | | https://api.census.gov/data/2020/cbp?get=NAME,NAICS2017_LABEL,ESTAB,PAYANN,PAYQTR1,EMP&for=combin |
| state › congressional district | 500 | https://api.census.gov/data/2020/cbp?get=NAME,NAICS2017_LABEL,ESTAB,PAYANN,PAYQTR1,EMP&for=congres |
| | | https://api.census.gov/data/2020/cbp?get=NAME,NAICS2017_LABEL,ESTAB,PAYANN,PAYQTR1,EMP&for=congres |
| | | https://api.census.gov/data/2020/cbp?get=NAME,NAICS2017_LABEL,ESTAB,PAYANN,PAYQTR1,EMP&for=congressional%20district:01&in=state:01&N |

The Examples page has many useful calls that can be used as starting points for more specific API requests

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https://api.census.gov/data/2020/cbp/examples.html

22

# County Business Patterns

## Loading Data in API
## Variables

The variables page will show the user what variables can be displayed in a table, and/or used as a filter

| Name | Label | Concept | Required | Attributes | Limit | Predicate Type | Group |
|------|-------|---------|----------|-----------|-------|---------------|-------|
| CBSA | Geography | | not required | | 0 | *(not a predicate)* | N/A |
| CD | Geography | | not required | | 0 | *(not a predicate)* | N/A |
| COUNTY | Geography | | not required | | 0 | *(not a predicate)* | N/A |
| CSA | Geography | | not required | | 0 | *(not a predicate)* | N/A |
| EMP | Number of employees | All Sectors: County Business Patterns, including ZIP Code Business Patterns, by Legal Form of Organization and Employment Size Class for the U.S., States, and Selected Geographies: 2020 | not required | EMP_F | 0 | int | CB2000CBP |
| EMP_N | Noise range for number of employees | All Sectors: County Business Patterns, including ZIP Code Business Patterns, by Legal Form of Organization and Employment Size Class for the U.S., States, and Selected Geographies: 2020 | not required | EMP_N_F | 0 | int | CB2000CBP |
| EMPSZES | Employment size of establishments code | All Sectors: County Business Patterns, including ZIP Code Business Patterns, by Legal Form of Organization and Employment Size Class for the U.S., States, and Selected Geographies: 2020 | default displayed | EMPSZES_LABEL | 0 | string | CB2000CBP |

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https://api.census.gov/data/2020/cbp/variables.html

23

# County Business Patterns

## Loading Data in API
## Statewide

To call Statewide rows for post 2017, the qualifier 'GEOCOMP=S0' will need to be put into a call for state-level geographies

Specific states data can be selected by replacing the 'state:*' with 'state:FIPS_Code' where FIPS code is the 2 digit FIPS state desired



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https://api.census.gov/data/2018/cbp?get=NAME,EMP,ESTAB,NAICS2017,NAICS2017_LABEL,PAYANN,PAYQTR1,YEAR&for=state:*&NAICS2017=00&GEOCOMP=S0

24

# Additional Links

**Further help**

Help with County Business Patterns Data
- Phone: (301)763-2580
- E-mail: ewd.county.business.patterns@census.gov

Feedback for Data.census.gov
- Cedsci.feedback@census.gov

Related links:
- 2017 Economic Census: https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/economic-census.html
- Business Dynamics Statistics:  https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/bds.html
- Census Bureau Other Economic Programs: https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/economic-surveys.html
- Nonemployer Statistics: https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/nonemployer-statistics.html
- North American Industry Classification System: https://www.census.gov/naics/
- Statistics on U.S. Businesses:  https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/susb.html

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25